

THE FREE LANCE, published tri-weekly as an independent newspaper, at 30 Commerce (or William) st., Fredericksburg, Virginia, and is issued on Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday mornings by The Free Lance Newspaper, Book and Job Printing Company of Fredericksburg, Virginia.

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All communications of every character should be addressed to "THE FREE LANCE," Fredericksburg, Va.

**Weather forecast for Fredericksburg and vicinity.**  
Showers and cooler Saturday.

Secretary Alger's retirement from the Cabinet is again threatened. Mr. Alger has not authorized the rumor.

It is now claimed that the "connecting link" in the Molinoux case has been found, and the prosecution feel confident he will be convicted.

Gen. Wheeler prefers active service in the field to "snuffing the battle from afar," and if he cannot go to Manila he will resign his brigadier generalship and return to his seat in Congress. He has no use for the "tin soldier."

Gomez has determined to retire to private life and spend the closing days of his life in peace. He thinks the United States should control Cuba until Cubans are capable of self-government, which, he thinks, they are not capable of at present.

Touching the naming of one of the new battleships authorized by Congress at its last session, The Free Lance learns upon unquestioned authority that Senators Daniel and Martin made a vigorous but unsuccessful effort to have one of them named for Virginia. These Senators, backed by Senator Hale, of Maine, chairman of the Committee on Naval Affairs in the U. S. Senate, not only made an earnest request in writing to Secretary of the Navy Long, but backed this up by a personal visit to the Secretary at the Navy Department. The Free Lance deems it an act of justice and for the information of the Virginia people to publish this statement.

The only summer normal school arranged for this year, on the eastern side of the Blue Ridge mountains, is located at Fredericksburg. Its location is not only a wise provision of the State Board, but is a matter of congratulation on the part of the citizens of the town. Fredericksburg is centrally located and easy of access by the four lines of approach from the different points of the compass, and then our visitors will be welcomed to refined, hospitable homes, where charges will be small and their stay made pleasant and profitable. For this reason, we hope and expect to see a large number of the teachers of Tidewater and Piedmont Virginia in attendance as well as from other parts of the State.

The normals held here in the past have proved a great success, both in the numbers present and the course of instruction. In those we had such instructors as Prof. Wilson, of Washington; Prof. Newell, of Baltimore; Prof. Swartz, of Lexington; Prof. Jordan, then of the Miller School, and others, besides a competent corps of female instructors. It should be the aim and effort of the Council and school authorities of the town to make this the best ever held here and equal to any held in the State. Of course the corps of instructors are selected and procured by the State board, but there is much our authorities can do to make the Normal a success. Our court room, seated in amphitheater style, is large and comfortable and admirably adapted for the general instruction of the school, while the small rooms are ample in number and size for classes. These facts should be widely circulated, as the convenience of buildings will be considered when teachers are deciding which normal they will attend. There are inducements in the way of excursions and sight-seeing that could be held out to them. For instance, an excursion might be made to Wide Water that they may see the broad and beautiful Potomac and enjoy the boating, fishing and bathing that make that point so attractive. Then an excursion down the historic Rappahannock, with its variety of scenery, would be highly appreciated and enjoyed. All these things can be accomplished if undertaken in time and pressed, and if properly advertised, would insure a large attendance upon the Normal. Let everybody work for the success of the

One Wm. McKinley, who boards at the White House, in Washington, at government expense, and who has figured very much in public affairs lately, has issued a proclamation to the effect that we are at peace with the world, "and the balance of mankind," as Jackson would say. Yet we have an army in Porto Rico intimidating and forcing those people to favor annexation; another army in Cuba, holding those people in submission to the will and dictum of a military satrapy; a still larger army and much of the navy in the Philippines shooting those people down, when they "will stand to be killed," because they wish to govern their own country. Besides this, white miners have been killing negro miners in Illinois for no other cause than that of attempting to work in the mines to make an honest living. In addition to all this, we are firing on and killing Samoans because they want to choose their own ruler and govern their island home to suit themselves. Think of these things and then decide whether we are really at peace either at home or abroad.

The Ohio judge sitting on the trial of Mrs. George, charged with the murder of Mr. Sexton, in Canton, Ohio, has disregarded confidential professional relations between counsel and client, and drew from Mr. Werns, Mrs. George's attorney prior to the killing, much damaging testimony to the defense. We do not believe a judge could be found in Virginia who would have compelled such a witness to testify under such circumstances.

**Pan-Presbyterianism**  
Richmond, Va., April 13.—The commission of the Pan-Presbyterian council convened at the First church, this city this morning. The attendance was large. Various reports were introduced after which the subject of "desiderata of church history," was taken up and discussed by Professor Stevens of Lebanon, Ky., Rev. Dr. E. Goode, of Reading, Pa., Dr. J. B. Drewry, of New Brunswick; Dr. David Steele, of Philadelphia, and Dr. R. P. Kerr, of Richmond, and others. All pressed the importance of collecting church history. Rev. John E. Knatz, D. D., the delegate from the Franco-American commission of evangelization made an address. On motion the committee on foreign missions retired and drew up a resolution, recommending the work of the church in France to the attention of the church in this country, which was adopted.

The committee appointed to present the memorial adopted by the sixth council of the alliance on the subject of international arbitration reported that it had performed its work and presented the subject to President McKinley. The committee on the desiderata of history reported.

1. That Dr. Roberts inquire of the general assemblies, asking them to name their historical societies of historical centres.  
That the committee come into correspondence with these organizations and ask them to send a yearly list of publications.  
3. That it congratulate the Presbyterian historical society of Philadelphia on its prosperity and suggests that the denominations make it a centre.  
4.—That this section make this Presbyterian society the repository of its documents and archives.

The commission adjourned to meet in Washington, D. C., on the day before the general council meets next September.

**Bryan Speaks, But Not at the \$10 Banquet**

Milwaukee, Wis., April 13.—The Jefferson Club, of Milwaukee, observed the birthday of Thomas Jefferson by a banquet at the Plankinton House to-night attended by over 400 guests. The star guest was Hon. William J. Bryan, who had declined an invitation to speak at the \$10 Jefferson Day dinner in New York.

The principal speakers and their themes were as follows:  
William J. Bryan, "Democracy."  
Mayor Carter H. Harrison, of Chicago, "Corruption in Politics."  
Ex-Senator John L. Mitchell, of Wisconsin, "Thomas Jefferson."  
Mayor David S. Rose, of Milwaukee, "Imperialism."  
Judge Hiram W. Sawyer, of Hartford, Wis., "Shall Trusts and Corporations Rule?"

George W. Peck, of Wisconsin, "If a Soldier Does Not Like His Rations—What?"  
Bryan argued against imperialism, trusts and a large standing army and said that steps taken as to the money question will not be retraced.

**Foreign Affairs.**  
German newspapers call for a rapid increase in the imperial navy, so as to be better equipped to deal with the Samoan problem.

A new Greek cabinet has been formed with M. Theotokis as premier.

**Spanish-American Situation.**  
General Lawton's expedition moved twelve miles further along the shore of Laguna de Bay, near Manila, and captured two towns Thursday.

A body of Filipinos attacked the camp of the Third Artillery, near Malolos, but were driven off.

The Spanish gunboats which left Zamboanga, Mindanao, to be delivered to General Otis were stripped of their armament by Filipinos Thursday.

The Cuban army rolls were delivered to Gen. Brooke, in Havana Thursday evening.

**Are Deserting Aguinaldo?**

President McKinley received a dispatch Thursday from Dr. Schurman, president of the Philippine commission, in which the proclamation recently issued that the proclamation recently issued had done great good, and that Filipinos are visiting the commissioners every day to express their satisfaction and their desire to become citizens of this country.

The message also said that Filipinos coming into Manila declare that Aguinaldo's government is tyrannical, and that many natives are deserting from his standards each day.

**Gloucester Notes.**  
Application to sell liquor at Gloucester Court House was contested in the County Court this week. Last year the County Judge refused license, and the Circuit Judge overruled him. This year the County Judge granted license, holding that the decision of the Circuit Judge was binding on him. The case was appealed to the Circuit Court. Judge Wright opened Circuit Court Wednesday.

The Republicans held district meetings Wednesday and appointed delegates to the convention to be held at Gloucester Court House today.

A case in the Circuit Court before Judge T. K. B. Wright that is exciting much interest and speculation is the contested will case of Ware against Mason. About three years ago Mr. Ware married a Miss Cook, who was possessed of some property, and twelve months ago Mrs. Ware died, leaving one child. A will was made in the absence of her husband, he not knowing that such an instrument of writing was in existence until after the burial of his wife, or of its contents until it was offered for probate in the County Court.

Mr. Ware, the contestant, through his counsel—Messrs. J. N. Stubbs, Marys Jones, and J. Boyd Sears of Mathews—are trying to upset the will on the grounds that undue influence was exerted over the testatrix. Mrs. Mason, the proponent of the will and sister of the decedent, through her counsel—Messrs. Robert McCandlish, H. I. Lewis, of West Point, and C. E. Cary—is seeking to sustain the county Court in the probate of the will. The case is of much importance, and every inch of ground is stubbornly contested.

**The Ten-Dollar Feast.**

New York, April 13.—The long-heralded \$10 dinner of the Democratic Club in honor of the anniversary of the birthday of Thomas Jefferson was held to-night with great success at the Metropolitan Opera House.

It was marked as the largest political banquet ever held in this city, 1,800 guests being present. Another feature of the dinner was the lavish expenditure upon the decorations of the tables and upon the dinner itself, with accompanying thousands of quarts of wine.

The absence of Hon. William J. Bryan, who had declined an invitation to attend because he said the promoters of the affair did not represent the "true Democratic principle" of free silver at a ratio of 16 to 1, was apparently no damper upon the success of the feast or the enthusiasm of the feasters.

Perry Belmont, president of the club, was toastmaster, and also made a speech. The other speakers were:

Former Justice Augustus Van Wyck, who spoke on the subject, "Our Country and Her Commerce."  
Robert E. Roosevelt, who spoke on "Harmony—East, West, North and South—as the Only Salvation of American Institutions."

John B. Stanchfield, who responded to the toast "Thomas Jefferson."  
Frederick C. Schraub, who spoke on "The State Democracy."

Trusts and the tariff were scored and the selection of a new leader advocated. Looking from the tiers to the floor of the vast dining hall the tables seemed like great beds of roses. Each table was piled with a mass of roses and ferns intertwined, and was lighted by tall candelabra, with shades of harmonizing colors. So abundant were the flowers that some of the guests were scarcely able to see each other over floral banks. Vases of alabaster held flowers; there were horns of plenty filled with flowers and fruit, and the scene was set off with ribbons of cardinal silk.

**No Evidence of Murder in the Reid Case**

Manassas, Va., April 13.—E. B. Reid, charged with the murder of his first cousin, Mrs. Capitola Butler, on the night of Nov. 17, again had a preliminary hearing before Justices W. R. Free, sr., and Robert Garnett, but was discharged. Robert R. Campbell, of Warrenton, assisted Commonwealth's Attorney J. B. T. Thornton, and the defense was represented by ex-Congressman E. E. Meredith, of Manassas, and Hon. Eppa Hinton, jr., of Warrenton. This is the fourth time this case has been investigated—by the Coroner's jury, by the examining magistrates, by the Grand Jury, and by the examining magistrate. The body of the deceased was exhumed and the head taken off by Dr. S. S. Simpson, for the purpose of this examination. The case was thoroughly gone into yesterday and hearing of testimony was continued till a very late hour. At the conclusion Mr. Campbell, representing the prosecution, stated that he did not believe sufficient evidence had been adduced to convict the accused, and that the charge be dismissed, which was done.

**Bureau Opened.**

Mr. Olaggett B. Jones, of King and Queen county, who is to have charge of the May convention headquarters, reached Richmond Thursday night, and is at Murphy's. He opened the Bureau of Information yesterday.

Mr. L. C. Garnett, of Mathews, who is to assist Mr. Jones, also reached Richmond Thursday morning, and was busy fixing up the rooms. There is a vast amount of correspondence to be attended to, and Mr. Jones and Mr. Garnett will have all the work they can do. Other leaders in the movement will go to Richmond to assist them in their work.

**Generals Lee and Wheeler Will be Commissioned Brigadiers.**

Washington, April 13.—An order issued by the War Department yesterday masters out the following general officers:

Majors-General James H. Wilson, Fitzhugh Lee, Joseph Wheeler, John P. Bates, Samuel B. M. Young, Adna R. Chaffee, William Ludlow, Leonard Wood.

Brigadiers-General George W. Davis, Theodore Schwan, Lloyd Wheaton, Charles King, Frederick D. Grant, Robert P. Hughes, Samuel Ovenshine, Irving Hale and Robert H. Hall.

The above-named officers are mustered out to enable them to accept commissions as general officers of volunteers under the act of March 2, 1899. It is expected they will soon be reappointed as brigadiers-general under that act.

**Exports of Domestic Products.**

The monthly statement of exports of domestic products of the United States shows that during March the exports were: Breadstuffs, \$19,959,053; cattle and hogs, \$2,589,738; provisions \$14,355,249; cotton, \$11,289,863; mineral oils, \$5,291,034; total, \$53,865,427; a decrease of \$13,144,000 as compared with March, 1898.

Governor Tyler has granted a pardon to Ross Carter, who was convicted at the September (1897) term of the County Court of Washington, and sentenced to five years in the penitentiary for burglary.

**ESSEX.**

Personal Notes From Tappahannock

(Correspondence of The Free Lance.)

Tappahannock, Va., April 12, 1899. Mrs. George W. Anderson left on Monday for a trip to Baltimore.

Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Dillard returned on Thursday from a trip to Norfolk and Baltimore.

Dr. Harry Kriele, of Aberdeen, Md., was in town on Sunday.

Miss Annie Gordon is teaching a private school in this place. Miss Gordon was the principal of the graded school and is an exceedingly popular teacher, and has a number of pupils.

Miss Maude Hodgkins, of Washington, D. C., is the guest of her friend, Miss Ellen Latane.

Mr. John L. Beale, of Hague, Westmoreland, was visiting his brother, Rev. Frank B. Beale, several days last week.

Rev. and Mrs. William J. Mortimer are attending the convocation in Port Royal.

Mr. Aubrey Jones has been quite sick for the past week.

Miss Ethel McDaniel left on Tuesday morning for Baltimore.

The brick store which has been occupied by Messrs. Clarkson & Garrett for the past year, has been closed. Messrs. Anderson & Faulconer will open in a short time.

Mr. Converse, father of the editor of the Tidewater Democrat, expects to move to his new home, near Dunnbrook, in a few days.

Lieutenant and Mrs. Edward Wright left on Saturday, after a pleasant visit to Mrs. Thomas E. Blakey. Lieutenant Wright expects to leave for the Pacific coast in a few days.

Rev. Edward Temple was in town on Saturday visiting friends.

**Marriage in Prince William County.**

Mr. David Arrington and Miss Lucy Hixon were married in the Primitive Baptist church at Manassas, Wednesday evening, Elder, Waters, of Gaithersburg, Md., performing the ceremony.

The church was beautifully decorated with potted plants. Mr. Ashton Olamham, assistant cashier of the National Bank of Manassas, and Mr. Hickerson, railroad dispatcher at Washington, D. C., were the ushers. Miss Lillie Hixon, sister of the bride, was made of honor. Mr. Arrington is one of Prince William's most prosperous farmers. He is a young man of extensive acquaintance and is popular wherever known. The bride is a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George W. Hixon, of Manassas. She is very popular in the town and vicinity, and has many admirers. After taking tea at the home of the bride's parents, the bride and groom left for an extended northern tour.

**Coming to Virginia**

Commissioner of Agriculture Koiner has received a letter from a Pennsylvania man, who had read some recent remarks of Mr. Koiner on fruit-growing in Virginia, and had been induced to come to this State and engage in the industry. The writer stated that he wished to plant trees on one hundred acres, and asked Mr. Koiner's advice as to location and varieties of fruit best adapted to this latitude.

Mr. Koiner has also received a letter from a man in Illinois, who made very careful inquiries regarding the gold-mines of Virginia. Various expressions in the letter indicated that the writer was an expert in mining the precious metal.

**Gift to the University of Virginia.**  
Charlottesville, Va., April 13.—Hon. Jefferson M. Levy, of New York city and Monticello, has on this, the birthday of the great man for whom he was named, presented to the University of Virginia a complete time service. It consists of a regular clock, from which will be run a large thirty-inch dial in the library, two fifty-six-inch dials—one in the north and the other in the south pediments in the rotunda, and a program attachment for ringing the electric bells in all the lecture-rooms. The regulator will be placed in the faculty room, and all the other movements will be connected with it electrically.

**Watson Beats Allen.**

Mr. C. W. Allen, of Caroline, some time ago issued a challenge to the champion of the Checker Club of this city, to play a series of games. He arrived here Thursday night and there was at once a gathering of the club. W. L. Watson being our champion, played Allen ten games of which he won six. The members were interested spectators of the game. The club was lucky in putting Watson against Allen as he had beaten the champion of the Checker Club of Roanoke. Allen says he will be here again soon and tackle Watson or some of the lesser lights of the club.

**Mr. Huston May Run for U. S. Senator.**

Thursday's Richmond Times says: "The exclusive announcement made in the Times yesterday that Hon. Eppa Hinton, Jr., may be the candidate of the May convention people for the United States Senate, caused a good deal of interest in political circles. Mr. Hinton is one of the most promising young men in Virginia. He is said to be willing to make the race against Mr. Martin if the convention shall call upon him to do so. Mr. Huston's father was in the Senate a few years ago. The son has served in the Legislature, where he is a man of unusual ability."

The International Press League, which has been in annual session at Baltimore this week, arrived at Old Point Comfort Wednesday night, and Thursday morning about 250 of its members visited the ship yard to inspect the great plant. Before this the members of the league visited the Soldiers' Home at Hampton. They also visited the large Hampton Normal Institute for Indian and colored men and women.

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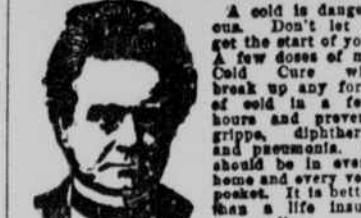
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**MUNYON'S**



A cold is dangerous. Don't let it get the start of you. A few doses of my Cold Cure will break up any form of cold in a few hours and prevent all complications. It should be in every home and every pocket. It is better than a life insurance policy.

**COLD CURE**

Senator Daniel on the May Convention.

The Richmond Times of Thursday says:

Senator John W. Daniel, who came down to Richmond on last Tuesday night to attend a meeting of the Masonic Centennial Committee, was seen yesterday in regards to the convention to be held at the Academy of Music, in this city on May 10th, the object being to ascertain the sense of the people regarding the election of United States senators by popular vote.

When asked as to his attitude as regards the convention, Senator Daniel said that he held the same views now as when he clearly defined his position at the Roanoke convention. Said he: "I have been always in favor of the legislative delegate and senatorial districts, instructing their representatives according to their pleasure by convention or primary election as they may see fit. But I have not thought it wise for the people of Richmond or Lynchburg to undertake to instruct the delegates or senators of Wise and Accomac counties, nor for the people of Pittsylvania to instruct those of Alexandria and Frederick, and so all around. Local self-government is the genius of Democracy. That requires that the constituent occupies the relation of principal or agent. The people of Virginia do not hold State conventions to nominate the ten congressmen, nor the one hundred and forty members of the Legislature. They act in districts. And each district has the right to instruct its representative whether in Congress or the General Assembly, so that it may truly represent them. I expressed this opinion at the Roanoke convention, and have seen no occasion to change it, for it is the very essence of true Democracy and self-government."

The Dispatch speaking of the same interview says: "Before the interview ended Senator Daniel inquired as to the whereabouts of Senator Martin, saying he had not seen him, and did not know whether he was in the city."

**The Samoan Situation Becoming Grave.**

Washington, D. C., April 13.—The situation in Samoa has suddenly become more critical.

Advices received yesterday state that an American and British force was ambushed by Mataafa rebels April 1 near Apla, the Samoan capital, and defeated. Four Americans and three men of the British force were killed and five Americans and one Briton were wounded.

The news was sent from Apla by steamer to Auckland, New Zealand, where it arrived yesterday and was faxed.

The Americans killed were all of the cruiser Philadelphia. They were: Lieut. Philip Van Horn Lansdale, Ensign John R. Monaghan, Coxswain James Butler.

The British killed were Lieut. Angell H. Freeman, of the navy, and two seamen.

Five men from the Philadelphia and Seaman, of the British cruiser Porpoise, were wounded.

The ambulance, according to the dispatches, occurred on a German plantation. The manager of the plantation was arrested and detained on the British cruiser Tanager. Affidavits were made declaring that he was seen urging to fight.

Someones says that Mataafa, the rebel leader, was willing to surrender, but that Herr Rose, the German consul, advised him not to do so.

Further trouble of an extremely critical nature is feared in Samoa. There are also new possibilities of international complications involving the United States and Great Britain, which support Maitoia, the reigning Samoan King, and the Germans, who support Mataafa.

**Stafford.**

I hereby announce myself a candidate for the office of Commonwealth's Attorney, at the election to take place on Thursday, May 25th, 1899, and I respectfully ask for your support, and I also respectfully ask my friends to take no part in the Democratic primaries on the 24 day of May. If elected, I promise a faithful, honest, and impartial discharge of the duties of the office.

Very respectfully yours,

T. H. Blanton.

**To the Voters of Caroline:**

I am a candidate for Commissioner of Revenue for District No. 1 of Caroline county at the election which takes place on Thursday, May 25th, 1899, and I respectfully ask for your support, and I also respectfully ask my friends to take no part in the Democratic primaries on the 24 day of May. If elected, I promise a faithful, honest, and impartial discharge of the duties of the office.

Respectfully,

J. H. DeJarnette,

Mar. 16-td

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Respectfully,

James Ashby.

apl-td

**Gen. Wheaton Chasing Filipinos.**

Manila, April 12.—General Wheaton started at daylight with the Tenth Pennsylvania and the Second Oregon Regiments and two guns to drive the natives from the American right flank, between the railroad and the foothills.

He met slight resistance near Santa Maria and had one man wounded. But the natives bolted when shelled by the artillery and burned and abandoned the town of Santa Maria, where a thousand of them were reported to have been concentrated.